

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 6, please replace lines 16-18 with the following text:

Figs. 3a, 3b show the device according to the invention in positions with a narrow cleaning gap (Fig. 3a) and with a wide cleaning gap (Fig. 3**eb**).

On page 9, please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 17 with the following text:

With reference to Figs. 3a, 3b, the licker-in or roller 3a of the carding machine of Fig. 1 is associated with the separating blade 17a for impurities F, which blade is arranged on a support 20a. The edge 17' of the separating blade 17a is opposed to the direction of rotation 3' of the licker-in 3a. The support 20a, for example an extruded ~~aluminium~~ aluminum profile, is displaceable in the direction of arrows C and D parallel to the outer surface of the licker-in 3a, i.e. concentric with the centre point M of the licker-in 3a. Reference numeral 21 denotes the separation opening which is located between the separating blade 17a and the feed roller 1. The feed roller 1 is in a fixed position in that, at least during operation, the roller axis is in a fixed position. Because the support 20a is displaceable in directions C, D, the distance between the separating blade 17a and the slow-speed feed roller 1 bordering the separation opening 21 can be varied. The separating blade 17a is mounted on the support 20a by means of a screw connection 34 or the like so as to be displaceable in the direction of the licker-in 3a. The separating blade

17a is associated with the extraction hood 18a, which is mounted in a pivot bearing 35 on the support 20a. Reference numeral 18' denotes the inlet opening into the extraction hood 18a, which opening extends in slot-like manner across the width of the machine or the extraction hood 18a. On the extraction hood 18a there is mounted – opposite the support 20a – in the region of the intake slot 18' a guiding member 18" in the form of a guide sheet 18". The free end of the guide sheet is directed towards the intake slot 18'. The guiding element 18", which together with the extraction hood 18a forms an integrally extruded component, has a slightly curved shape. The extraction chamber 18a is associated with a guide element 19a, which is in a fixed position during operation, and is located in the region underneath the separation opening 21. The guide element 19a is somewhat angular in shape and has a slightly curved arm 19', the free end of which points towards the intake opening 18'. The other end of the arm 19' is rounded and merges into a holding and securing element 19" for the guide element 19a. The distance a between the rounded portion and the feed roller 1, which denotes an air-inlet opening 38 for an air current E, is constant during operation. The guiding member 18" is arranged on the side of the arm 19' remote from the licker-in 3a. The displacement of the support 20a is effected by a rack 36 with a pinion 37. Whilst it is in a fixed position during operation, the position of the guide element 19a and thus the distance a can be adjusted by means of an adjusting device (not shown) when the carding machine is not operating.